

# ANCASTER HOUSE SCHOOL









The aim of the school is to provide the best education to enable each girl to develop her own ability and personality and to combine independent judgment with a sense of responsibility and a willingness to serve others.

## The School

Ancaster House is a Public Independent Boarding School for about 300 girls between the ages of 10–18 years.

It is a member of the Governing Bodies of Girls' Schools' Association, and is inspected and recognised as efficient by the Department of Education and Science.

## History

The School, standing in approximately 20 acres of its own grounds, is situated on the outskirts of Bexhill overlooking the sea. It was founded in 1906 to be a second home for its pupils, many of whose parents live abroad, and a spirit of friendship and courtesy has always been encouraged among its members. Since those early days there has been a continuous programme of development and new building which is illustrated on the plan.

## The House System

The School is divided for all practical purposes into four Middle School Houses, and two Sixth Form Houses. By this arrangement it is possible to give the girls individual care and the environment of a happy home life.

The ten and eleven year olds are grouped together in separate units attached to two of the Middle School Houses.

Each House has its own Housemistress, and at least one Assistant

Housemistress. Whilst all girls meet together for meals in the central dining hall, each House has its own common rooms for recreation.

### The Sixth Form House

The years that a girl spends in the Sixth Form are of the greatest importance. They enable her to consolidate and further all that she has learned in the Middle School, and to develop that self-confidence and poise which will hold her in good stead when she finds herself in the rapidly changing, and often turbulent, post-school world.

There are approximately 70 girls in the Sixth Form living in first and second year houses. Here they are able to entertain their friends and live under rather more adult conditions. Whilst, in this sense, they are separate from the rest of the school, in every other way they play a full part in the general activities of the school, and great care is taken to see that a proper balance is kept between special privileges and additional responsibilities. Study bedrooms are provided for all these students.

## School Courses, Careers, and University Selection

The aim of the School is to give a good, general education, without specialization, up to the General Certificate of

Education Ordinary level, and then to provide every possible opportunity for Advanced level work in the Sixth Form, where girls have a wide choice of subjects. There is a large, well qualified teaching staff. Up to date teaching equipment, audio visual aids, and modern text books are used throughout the School.



Great care is taken over the preparation of each girl's timetable, in consultation with her parents at appropriate stages, so that her particular requirements are met and her own talents and abilities developed.

The normal School Curriculum includes:

Scripture, English Language and Literature, History, Geography, Latin, French, German, Spanish, Mathematics, Biology, Physics, Chemistry, Art, Needlework, Cookery, Class Music, Speech Training, Physical Education. Tuition in non-curricula languages can be arranged for an additional fee.

### Sixth Form Studies in outline

#### 1. The Two-Year Course

In preparation for G.C.E. 'A' level examinations for those aiming at universities or careers demanding 'A' level standards. Normally grade 4 'O' level qualifying passes are required for entrance to this course, but full consideration will be given to individual requests.

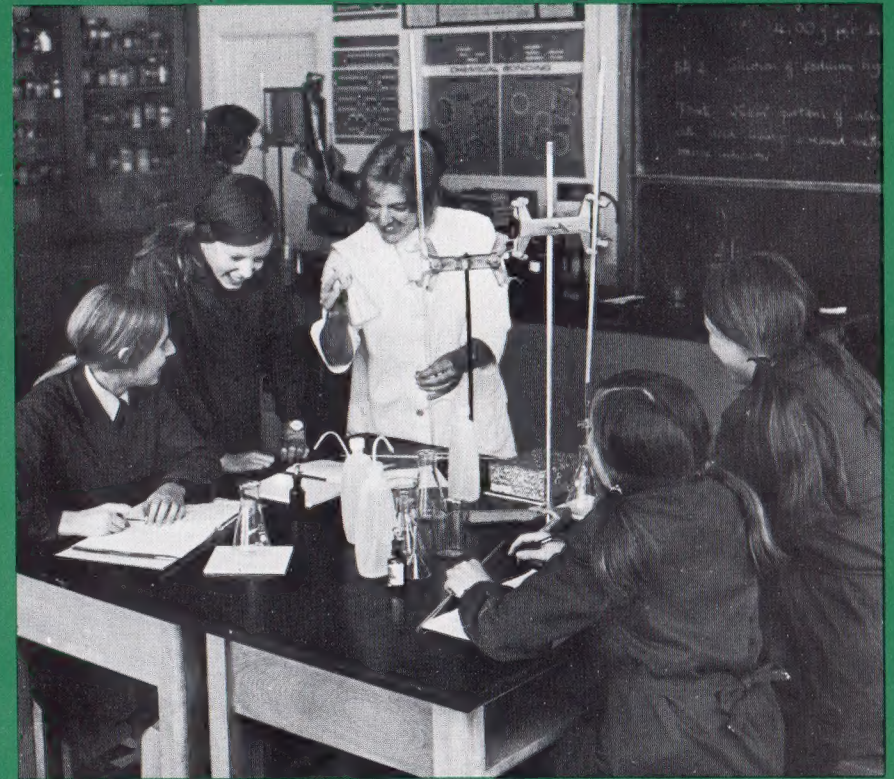
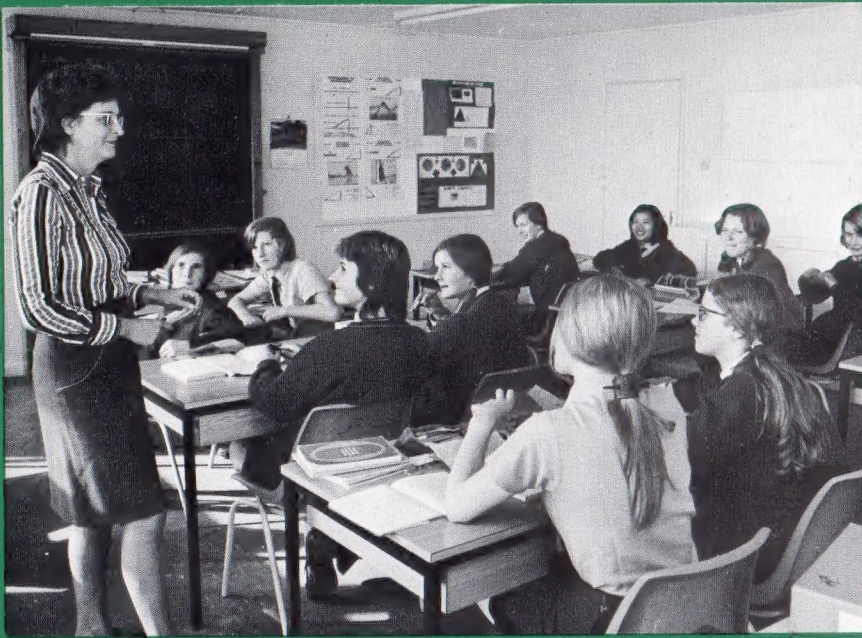
#### 2. The One-Year Course

A general studies course including Home Economics if required, to enable students who are not taking 'A' levels to benefit from a year in the Sixth Form taking further 'O' levels at the end of one year.

Both courses offer opportunities in Music, Art, Dressmaking, Cookery, Philosophy, Social Studies, etc.

Guidance is given on careers and







university selection, as well as for all other forms of vocational training. There is a Careers section in the school Reference Library and the Careers Mistress also makes full use of the School Careers' Library as well as information from the Careers Research and Advisory Council and the National Advisory Centre on Careers for Women.

## The Arts

### Music

The School has its own choir and a small orchestra. There are opportunities for learning a wide range of instruments including the pianoforte, woodwind and the stringed instruments.

### Art and Crafts

The Art Department is under the direction of a fully trained specialist. Girls gain experience in a wide variety of techniques such as painting, pottery, lino cuts, and fabric printing.

### Speech and Drama

House plays, School plays, and Middle School plays are arranged each year, and there is at least one dramatic production each term. Excellent facilities are provided in the new Burrows Hall. Speech and Drama can also be taken as an extra subject.

## Religion

Religion plays an important part in the everyday life of the School. There are non-denominational prayers each morning, and every girl is expected to attend worship once a week. Religious teaching, which is based on the principles of the Church of England, is designed to inculcate the fundamental principles of Christian living and responsibilities, and to develop a true sense of personal and social values.

Girls take part in the church services held in the nearby Parish Church, and the Rector prepares girls for Confirmation when they themselves feel they are ready. Girls of other denominations are welcomed at the School, and arrangements can generally be made for them to attend their own places of worship.

## Physical Education and Games

Games are compulsory for Juniors but arrangements for Sixth Formers are more flexible. In the winter, hockey, lacrosse, and netball are played; and there are excellent facilities for gymnastics and dance in the modern well equipped gymnasium. In the summer there is tennis (16 courts), swimming (a heated open air swimming pool), rounders, and athletics. All games are coached.

Each term there is an extensive fixture list, matches being arranged

with other schools and local clubs. There is also a full programme of inter-House games.

There are opportunities for coaching in a wide range of other activities. These are optional extras which include riding, judo, squash, sailing, ballet, and ballroom dancing.

## Other Activities

The right use of leisure is regarded as an essential part of education. Time is given for hobbies, and for School Clubs and Societies, including photography,

craft, flower arrangement, bird watching, singing, sketching, bridge and country dancing.

Each year parties of girls attend theatres and orchestral concerts, and visit art galleries and museums in London, Eastbourne, Brighton, and Hastings.

Many girls take a keen interest in social service, and help in the community wherever possible. They also raise money for many charitable organisations. The activities may lead to participation in the Duke of Edinburgh's Award Scheme.





## General Information

**Health.** The house staff are responsible for the day to day well-being of the girls. There is a small sanatorium and clinic in the charge of a fully trained nurse. The School Doctor visits weekly and is always available in case of emergency.

There are excellent hospital facilities at The Royal East Sussex Hospital, Hastings, in those rare cases when emergency treatment is necessary.

Throughout the time that a girl remains at the School the School Doctor shall have the right to give to her parents, guardian, or the Headmistress, such information about the girl he considers to be in her interest or necessary for the protection of other members of the School community.

**Liaison with Parents.** A particular effort is made to keep parents fully informed of the progress of their daughters whilst they are at Ancaster House. This is important when it comes to the choice of subjects to be studied, university selection, and the choice of careers.

Parents are always welcome at the School, but one weekend at the end of each Summer Term is especially set aside for them. This is not only an opportunity to see the School in action but also one of the times when they can discuss their daughters' progress with members of the staff.

The School welcomes girls whose parents are overseas. Travel escorts,

passports, vaccinations, the purchase of school uniform from Dickens and Jones, and courses of dental treatment can be arranged by the School. Trunks may be stored at school during the holidays.

**Clothes.** A simple uniform is required and details are obtainable either from the School or direct from Dickens and Jones. There is a second hand shop in the School from which certain items of school uniform may be obtained. Home clothes may be worn after 4 p.m. on weekdays and at weekends.

**Exeats.** Details of exeats are set out on a separate sheet in the pocket. Overseas parents are particularly asked to make a special effort to arrange for their daughters to be taken out during the autumn and summer half terms.

**Registration and Admission.** Parents seeking admission for their daughters should, after visiting the School, complete the entrance form and send this to the Headmistress together with the appropriate registration fee.

Girls entering at the age of 10 are accepted on the basis of their present school's report, and then subsequently take Common Entrance internally.

Admission at 11, 12, or 13 years is subject to a satisfactory performance in the Girls' Schools' Common Entrance examination.

There is a small direct entry into the Sixth Form. This is dependent on an interview, the applicant's 'O' level results and a satisfactory recommendation

from the Headmistress of her previous school.

**Confirmation of Entry.** Before a girl is due to take up her place at the School, her parents or guardian will be asked to confirm their acceptance of a vacancy and to pay an entry fee: this will subsequently be deducted from the last term's fees. It will not be returned when a girl's entry has been withdrawn or cancelled by the parents or guardian after confirmation.

**Fees and Withdrawals.** Details of fees are set out on a separate sheet in the pocket.

All fees are payable at the beginning of each term.

A full term's notice, or a term's payment, is required before the withdrawal of a pupil, or before an extra subject is discontinued.

The Headmistress may in her absolute discretion require the removal of a pupil without a term's notice if she considers that circumstances warrant such action. In this event no claims shall arise for the remission or return of any portion of the fees payable for that term.

**Insurance and Fee Payment Schemes.** School fees are not refunded for any part of a term in which a girl may be absent through illness, accident, quarantine, or other cause. Parents are invited to join a School Fees Remission Scheme designed to insure against such contingencies.

Parents may also insure through the School Fees Remission Scheme with the

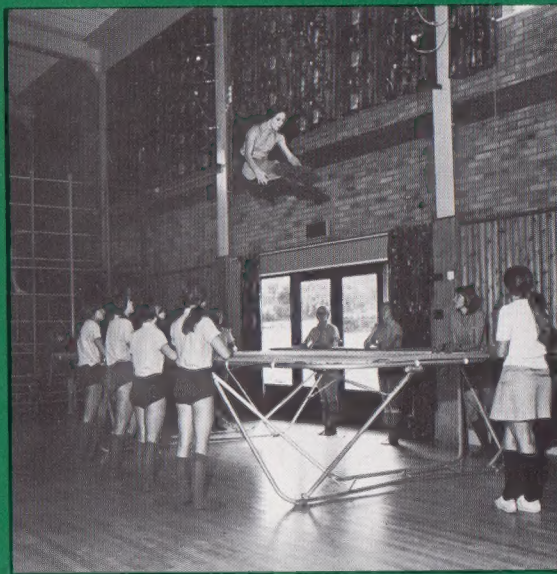
British United Provident Association against the cost of specialists' fees, operations, and hospital maintenance charges.

Endowment Assurance Schemes on the life of the parent, and linked to fee payments are also available through Insurance Brokers.

**Terms and Conditions.** The terms and conditions set out in this prospectus may be amended from time to time and its provisions, subject to any such amendments, will apply during the whole of the period while a girl continues to attend the School irrespective of age. Admission to, or retention in, the School of a pupil is conditional on acceptance of them.







Address: Ancaster House School,  
Bexhill-on-Sea,  
Sussex,  
TN40 2JQ

Telephone: Bexhill 211092







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Bexhill-on-Sea, Sussex, TN40 2JQ.

Telephone: Bexhill 211092

Station: Bexhill Central (from Victoria)

## Entrance Form

Name (in full) \_\_\_\_\_  
(Please underline Christian name in general use)

Date of Birth \_\_\_\_\_ Nationality \_\_\_\_\_

Previous School \_\_\_\_\_

Has she any tendency which may require special care? \_\_\_\_\_  
(Write this, please, on back)

What infectious illnesses has she had? \_\_\_\_\_

For which term do you wish to secure a vacancy? \_\_\_\_\_

(Parents are asked to note that before the removal of a girl a full term's notice should be given in writing a week before the first day of that term: otherwise a full term's fees must be charged.)

Name and address of a Referee \_\_\_\_\_

Father's Profession \_\_\_\_\_

### *Declaration to be signed by parent or guardian*

I enclose with this application form for my daughter \_\_\_\_\_  
the appropriate Registration Fee as set out on the current Fees Sheet.

I understand that I shall be asked to confirm the entry of my daughter and to pay an Entry Fee of £50 on the conditions set out in the Prospectus. I have read and, if my daughter is admitted to the School, agree to the terms of the School Prospectus and I also agree to conform to the rules of the School. I understand that the terms and conditions set out in this Prospectus may be amended from time to time and its provisions, subject to any such amendments, will apply during the whole period while a girl continues to attend the School irrespective of her age. I further understand that admission to, or retention in, the School of my daughter is conditional upon acceptance of them.

Signed \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Home and Business addresses, with telephone numbers:

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_



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